



Author Spotlight Doris Kearns Goodwin

Doris Kearns was born on January 4, 1943 in Brooklyn, New York and grew up in Rockville Center, Long Island. Her invalid mother encouraged her love of books, while her father shared her love of baseball; she traces her interest in history to her childhood experience recording the fortunes of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

She earned her B.A. from Colby College, Maine, graduating Magna cum laude. While in college, she undertook summer internships at the U.S. Congress and the State Department. She won a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship and earned a Ph.D. in Government at Harvard University.

In 1967, Doris Kearns became a special assistant to President Johnson in the White House. After President Johnson's retirement in 1969, she began a decade's work as a Professor of Government at Harvard, where she taught a course on the American Presidency. On weekends, holidays and vacations she traveled to Johnson's ranch in Texas, to assist the ex-president in the preparation of his memoir.

In 1975, Doris Kearns married Richard Goodwin, who had been an advisor and speechwriter to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson and to Senator Robert Kennedy. In 1977, Doris Kearns Goodwin published her first book, *Lyndon Johnson & the American Dream*, drawing on her own conversations with the late president. It became a New York Times bestseller. With her husband's assistance, she began research in the Kennedy family archives in Hyannisport. The result was *The Fitzgeralds & the Kennedys*, a New York Times bestseller for five months.

Her next success was, *No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The American Homefront During World War II* which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for history in 1995. *Wait Till Next Year: A Memoir* was published in 1997. Her tale of growing up in the 1950's and her love of the Brooklyn Dodgers became a New York Times bestseller.

Ms. Goodwin's latest book is *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*. Steven Spielberg acquired the rights to the book and is developing a feature film based on it, with Liam Neeson to star as Lincoln.

In addition to her books, Ms. Goodwin has written numerous articles on politics and baseball for leading national publications. She is a regular panelist on Public Television's The News Hour with Jim Lehrer and a frequent commentator on NBC and MSNBC. She has been consultant and on-air person for PBS documentaries on LBJ, the Kennedy family, Franklin Roosevelt and Ken Burns's History of Baseball. She is also the first woman ever to enter the Red Sox locker room. Doris and Richard Goodwin have three sons, Richard, Michael and Joseph. They make their home in Concord, Massachusetts.

Visit Doris Kearns Goodwin's website at www.doriskearnsgoodwin.com



Books by Doris Kearns Goodwin

Lyndon Johnson & the American Dream (1976)

The Fitzgeralds & The Kennedys (1987)

No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The American Homefront During World War II (1995)

Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln (2005)

If you like Doris Kearns Goodwin's books, try some of these:

Stephen Ambrose

David McCullough

Shelby Foote

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